

# In the United States Court of Federal Claims

## OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 16-743V

Filed: November 4, 2016

UNPUBLISHED

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HELENE MELANCON,

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Petitioner,

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v.

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SECRETARY OF HEALTH

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AND HUMAN SERVICES,

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Respondent.

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*Ronald Craig Homer, Conway, Homer & Chin-Caplan, P.C., for petitioner.*

*Ann Donohue Martin, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for respondent.*

### **RULING ON ENTITLEMENT**<sup>1</sup>

**Dorsey**, Chief Special Master:

On June 23, 2016, petitioner filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*,<sup>2</sup> (the “Vaccine Act”). Petitioner alleges that she suffered a shoulder injury related to vaccine administration (“SIRVA”) as a result of her October 10, 2013 influenza (“flu”) vaccination. Petition at 1. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On November 4, 2016, respondent filed her Rule 4(c) report in which she concedes that petitioner is entitled to compensation in this case. Respondent’s Rule 4(c) Report at 1. Specifically, respondent has concluded “that petitioner’s left shoulder injury is consistent with SIRVA, and that it was caused in fact by the flu vaccine she received on October 10, 2013.” *Id.* at 3. Respondent further agrees that no other causes have been identified for petitioner’s injury and “records show that she suffered

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<sup>1</sup> Because this unpublished ruling contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, the undersigned intends to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims’ website, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2012) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, the undersigned agrees that the identified material fits within this definition, the undersigned will redact such material from public access.

<sup>2</sup> National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all “§” references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2012).

the sequela of her injury for more than six months.” *Id.* 3-4. Accordingly, respondent states that “petitioner has met the statutory requirements for entitlement to compensation.” *Id.* at 4.

**In view of respondent’s concession and the evidence before me, the undersigned finds that petitioner is entitled to compensation.**

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

**s/Nora Beth Dorsey**  
Nora Beth Dorsey  
Chief Special Master